



DISASTER NEWS

Loans for Homeowners, Renters and Businesses of All Sizes

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SBA Declares Disaster in Uvalde County Due to Tornado

Sacramento, CA – Hector V. Barreto, Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), today declared **Uvalde County** and the neighboring counties of **Bandera, Edwards, Frio, Kinney, Maverick, Medina, Real and Zavala** a disaster area due to damage caused by hail, high winds, and a tornado that occurred on March 19, 2006. SBA's action responds to a March 22 request from Texas Governor Rick Perry.

According to Anthony R. Alvarez, SBA's San Antonio District Director, low-interest Federal disaster loans are available to homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes and private, non-profit organizations whose property was damaged or destroyed by the disaster.

"SBA Customer Service Representatives will be on hand at the **Uvalde County Courthouse (located at the corner of Main and Getty) at 3 Courthouse Square in Uvalde**, to issue loan applications, answer questions about SBA's disaster loan program, explain the application process and help each individual complete their application," Alvarez said. The office will be open **Tuesdays through Fridays from 8 am to 5 pm**, and **Saturdays from 9 am to 1 pm** beginning **Tuesday, April 4**. The office will be open through **Saturday, April 15**.

"Disaster loans up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate. Homeowners and renters are eligible for up to \$40,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property," said Alvarez. "Businesses of any size and private non-profit organizations may borrow up to \$1.5 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and other business assets. SBA can also lend additional funds to help with the cost of making improvements that protect, prevent or minimize the same type of disaster damage from occurring in the future.

In addition, for small businesses only, SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. EIDL assistance is available regardless of whether the business suffered property damage," he added.

Individuals and businesses unable to visit SBA in person may obtain information and loan applications by calling toll-free **(800) 659-2955**. Hearing impaired individuals may call (800) 877-8339. Completed applications may be mailed to SBA at 14925 Kingsport Road, Ft. Worth, TX 76155.

The deadline to return applications for property damage is **May 30, 2006**. The deadline to return economic injury disaster loan applications is **January 31, 2007**.

For more information visit SBA's website at www.sba.gov/disaster.

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